

HIT

COMICS

10¢

MAY No. 64

A HEARTLESS SIREN'S CRY LURES
JEB RIVERS INTO A
murderous ambush!

*Don't miss this hair-raising
adventure!*



Also in this issue:
BETTY BATES
CRIME-FIGHTING BEAUTY

SIR ROGER
NOBLEMAN OF THE ROAD

BOB AND SWAB
ROVERS OF THE SEA



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

BE A SUCCESS AS A RADIO-TELEVISION TECHNICIAN

**TWO
FREE BOOKS
SHOW HOW
MAIL COUPON**

America's Fast Growing Industry

**I TRAINED THESE
MEN AT HOME**



OWN A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS

"Today I am considered an expert Radio-Television Technician. I have four employees working in my shop. Repeat business has doubled."—PAUL MILLER, Toledo, Ohio.

RADIO ENGINEER BIG NETWORK

"4 years ago, I was a bookkeeper with a hard-to-keep salary. Now I am a Radio-Television Technician with the ABC network."—NORMAN B. WARD, Ridgefield Park, New Jersey.

IS TO \$10 WEEK IN SPARE TIME

"While searching, made \$5 to \$10 a week in spare time. Now have a spare time shop in my home and earn as high as \$25 a week."—LEONARD ARNOLD, Peoria, Michigan.

SERVICE BUSINESS PROFITABLE

"For the past two years, I have been operating my own Servicing business. Not profit, \$1500. M.R.L. training made it possible."—PHILIP G. SIOGAN, Louisville, Kentucky.

GETS FIRST JOB THROUGH M.R.L.

"My first job, with KOLR, was obtained for me by your Graduate Service Dept. Am now Chief Engineer, Teller Radio Station WQXX."—J. S. MORTON, Hamilton, Ohio.

SEE PROFIT IN RADIO-TELEVISION

"I am operating my own Radio Sales and Service business. With FM and Television, we are looking forward to a very profitable future."—ALBERT PATRICK, Tampa, Florida.

SPARE TIME SERVICE PAYS WELL

"Work only in spare time at Radio and average about \$40 a month. Know nothing about Radio before enrolling with M.R.L."—SAMUEL T. DEWALL, St. Clair, Pennsylvania.

1. EXTRA MONEY IN SPARE TIME

As part of my servicing course, I send you SPECIAL BOOKLETS starting the day you enroll that show how you can make \$5, \$10 or more a week EXTRA fixing neighbors' Radios in spare time while learning. Tester you build with parts I send helps.

2. GOOD PAY JOB

Your next step is a good job installing and servicing Radio-Television sets, or becoming boss of your own Radio-Television Sales and Service Shop, or getting a good job in a Broadcasting Station. In 1945, there were 943 Radio Stations. Today, about 2,700 are on the air! Result—thousands of qualified men stepped into good jobs. Then add developments in FM, Two-Way Radio, Police, Aviation, Marine, Micro-wave Relay Radio. Think what this means! New jobs, more jobs, good pay for qualified men.

3. BRIGHT FUTURE

And think of the opportunities in Television. Only 19 Stations were on the air in 1947. Today, more than fifty. And the experts say there will be over 1,000 within three years. Manufacturers are producing over 100,000 Television sets a month. Be a successful Radio-Television Operator or Technician... get in line for success and a bright future in America's fastest-growing industry!



I Will Train You at Home

You Practice Servicing or Communications with MANY KITS

I've trained hundreds of men with no previous experience to be successful TECHNICIANS. I will train you, too. Or now you can enroll for my NEW practical course in Radio-Television Communications. Train for your FCC operator's or technician's license. You learn Radio-Television theory from clear, illustrated lessons in my tested home study courses.

As part of both my Servicing and Communications course, I send you MANY KITS of modern equipment that "bring to life" theory you learn.



You Build This MODERN RADIO

As part of my Servicing course, I send you speaker, tubes, chassis, loop antenna, transformer. EVERYTHING you need to build this modern Radio. Use it to conduct many valuable tests and practice servicing. It's yours to keep.

You Build This TRANSMITTER

As part of my New Communications course, I send parts to build this low-power broadcasting Transmitter that shows how to get a station "on the air." Perform procedures demanded of Broadcast Station operators, conduct many tests, experiments. It's yours to keep.



Building circuits, conducting experiments with them, introducing and repairing defects, gives you valuable, practical experience. (Some of the equipment you get is shown below.) Everything I send is yours to keep.

Mail Coupon for Books FREE

Coupon entitles you to ACTUAL LESSON on Radio Servicing with many pictures and diagrams plus my 64-page book, "HOW TO BE A SUCCESS IN RADIO-TELEVISION" both FREE. See what my graduates are doing and earning. Send coupon today. J. E. SMITH, President, Dept. 0042, National Radio Institute, Pioneer Home Study Radio School, Washington 9, D. C.

VETERANS

**GET THIS TRAINING
WITHOUT COST
UNDER G. I. BILL.
MAIL COUPON NOW.**

GETTING ADVANCED WITH
RESERVED REPAIRING

Good for Both—FREE

MR. J. E. SMITH, President, Dept. 0042
National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.

Mail me Sample Lesson and 64-page Book about How to Win Success in Radio-Television—both FREE. (No salesman will call. Please write plainly.)

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____
☐ Check if Veteran Approved Under G. I. Bill

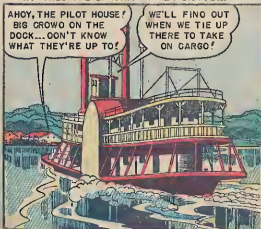


JEB RIVERS



THERE WERE GIANTS IN THOSE DAYS!
FATHER MISSISSIPPI'S TURBULENT RIVERBOAT YEARS WERE MADE RUGGEDLY EXCITING BY THE FRONTIER BULLIES WHO CHALLENGED ALL COMERS... AND JEB RIVERS NEVER TURNED DOWN A CHALLENGE! THE BIGGER THEY CAME, THE HARDER THEY FELL! EVEN TO THIS DAY, THE TALE IS TOLD OF THE ADVENTURE THAT BEGAN WHEN....

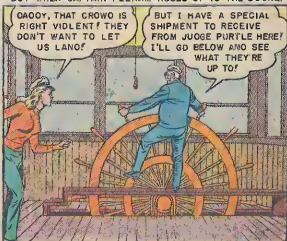
CAPTAIN PELHAM'S CRACK RIVER STEAMER *PARRAGON* APPROACHES THE LANDING AT NEW BISCOE...



AHOY, THE PILOT HOUSE!
BIG CROWD ON THE DOCK... DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE UP TO!

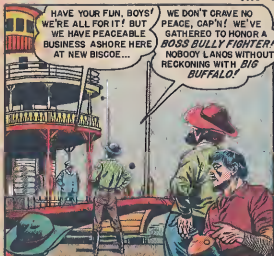
WE'LL FIND OUT WHEN WE TIE UP THERE TO TAKE ON CARGO!

BUT WHEN CAPTAIN PELHAM NOSES UP TO THE DOCK...



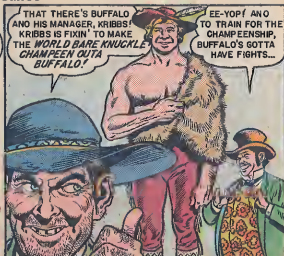
OAOOY, THAT CROWD IS RIGHT VIOLENT! THEY DON'T WANT TO LET US LAND!

BUT I HAVE A SPECIAL SHIPMENT TO RECEIVE FROM JUOGE PURTLE HERE! I'LL GO BELOW AND SEE WHAT THEY'RE UP TO!



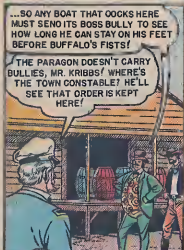
HAVE YOUR FUN, BOYS! WE'RE ALL FOR IT! BUT WE HAVE PEACEABLE BUSINESS ASHORE HERE AT NEW BISCOE...

WE DON'T CRAVE NO PEACE, CAP'N! WE'VE GATHERED TO HONOR A **BOSS BULLY FIGHTER!** NOBODY LANS WITHOUT RECKONING WITH **BIG BUFFALO!**



THAT THERE'S **BUFFALO** ANO HIS MANAGER, **KRIBBS!** KRIBBS IS FIXIN' TO MAKE THE **WORLD BARE KNUCKLE CHAMPEEN** OUTA **BUFFALO!**

EE-YOP! ANO TO TRAIN FOR THE CHAMPEENSHIP, **BUFFALO'S GOTTA HAVE FIGHTS...**



...SO ANY BOAT THAT OOCKS HERE MUST SEND ITS **BOSS BULLY** TO SEE HOW LONG HE CAN STAY ON HIS FEET BEFORE **BUFFALO'S FISTS!**

THE **PARAGON** DOESN'T CARRY BULLIES, MR. **KRIBBS!** WHERE'S THE TOWN **CONSTABLE?** HE'LL SEE THAT ORDER IS KEPT HERE!



OTHERS ABOARD THE **PARAGON** ARE DISTURBED BY THE UPROAR...

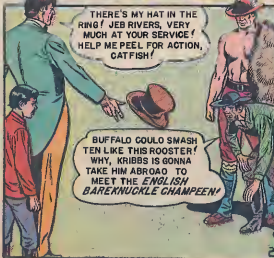
CONSTABLE? HAW! HAW! HE WAS THE **FUSTEST** TO FEEL HOW HARO ANO **PERMANENT** **BUFFALO** CAN HIT!

LISTEN, CATFISH! IT SOUNOS LIKE TROUBLE! LET'S SEE IF WE CAN HELP!



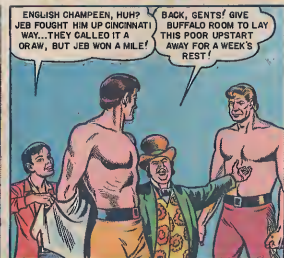
THEY WANT ONE OF US TO FIGHT THAT **BIG MONSTER** FOR THE RIGHT TO OOCK HERE!

ANO THEY OON'T SEEM ABLE TO LISTEN TO VERBAL ARGUMENTS, SO...TELL THEM THAT **JEB RIVERS** WILL MEET THEIR **BULLY**, CAPTAIN **PELMAN!**



THERE'S MY HAT IN THE RING! **JEB RIVERS**, VERY MUCH AT YOUR SERVICE! HELP ME PEEL FOR ACTION, **CATFISH!**

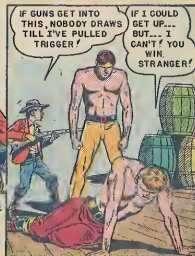
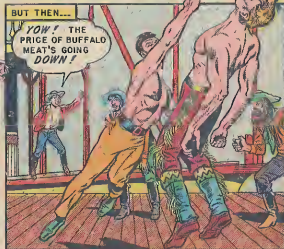
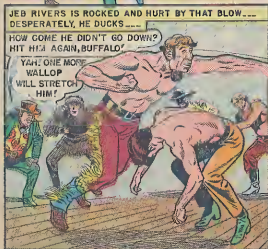
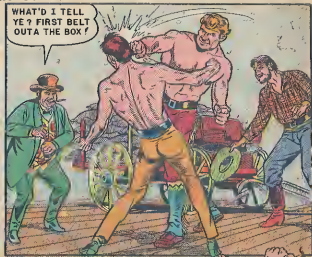
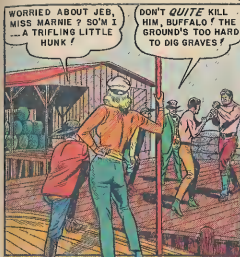
BUFFALO COULO SMASH TEN LIKE THIS ROOSTER! WHY, **KRIBBS** IS GONNA TAKE HIM ABOARD TO MEET THE **ENGLISH BAREKNUCKLE CHAMPEEN!**

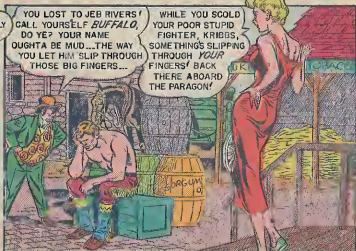
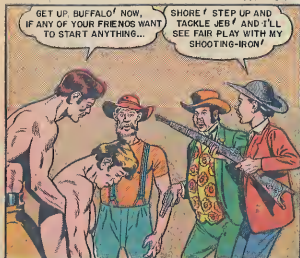


ENGLISH CHAMPEEN, HUH? **JEB** FOUGHT HIM UP CINCINNATI WAY...THEY CALLED IT A **DRAW**, BUT **JEB** WON A MILE!

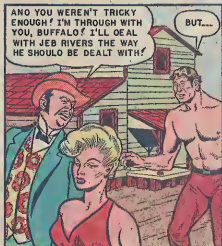
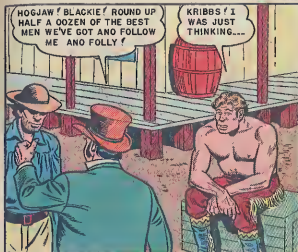
BACK, GENTS! GIVE **BUFFALO** ROOM TO LAY THIS POOR UPSTART AWAY FOR A WEEK'S REST!

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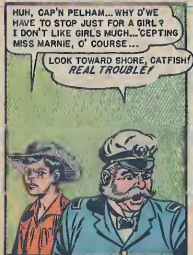
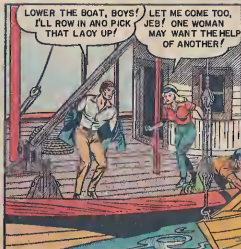


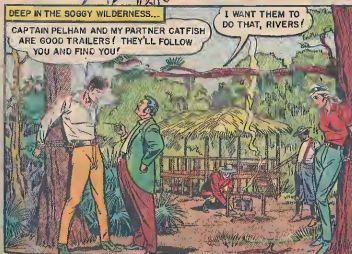


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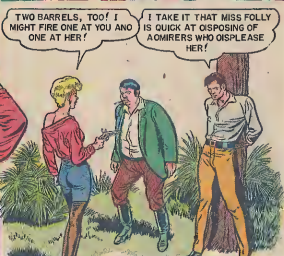


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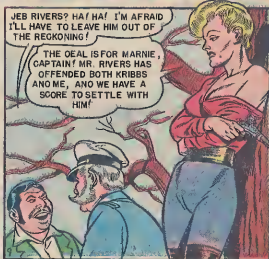
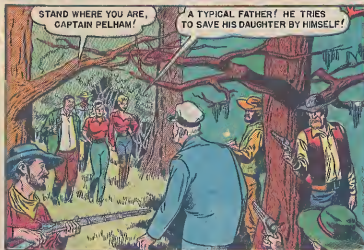




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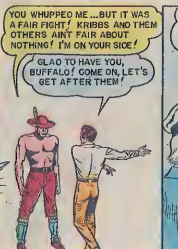
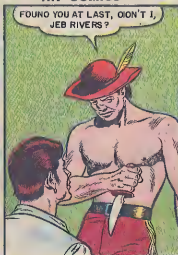


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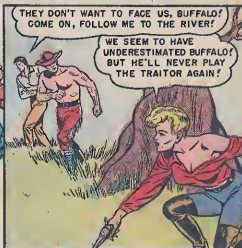
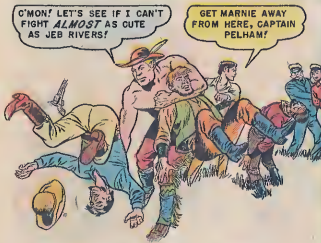
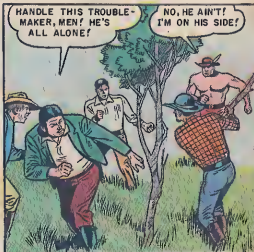


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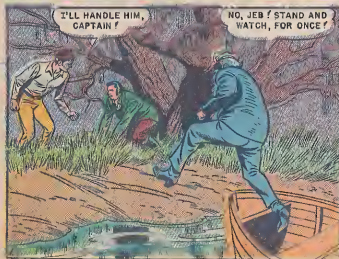
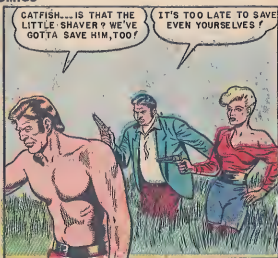
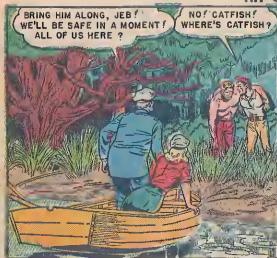
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO JEB RIVERS?



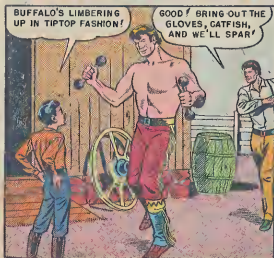
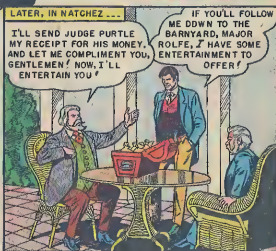
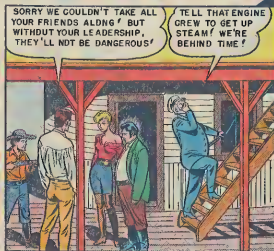
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SIR ROGER

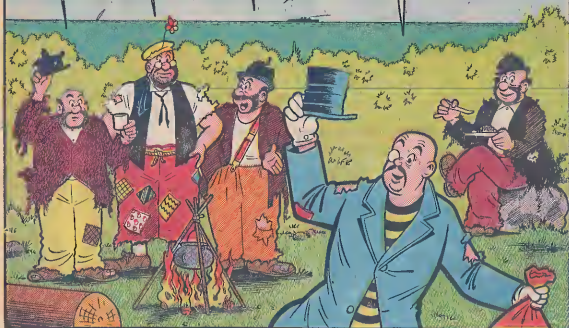
S'LONG,
SIR
ROGER!

I NEVER
THOUGHT
I'D SEE
THIS OAY
COME!

ACTUALLY
TAKING
A JOB,
HE IS!

I JUST GOT
THE URGE, BOYS...
WE CAN'T ALL
LEAD PERFECT
LIVES, Y'KNOW!

JUST THE
SAME, I BET
HE'S BACK
IN AN HOUR!

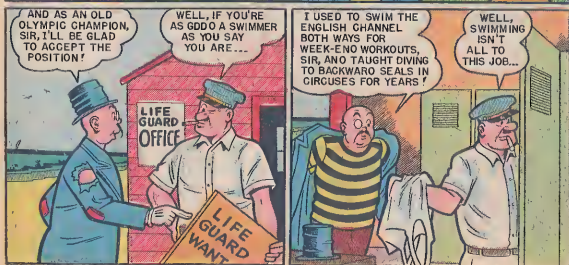


AND AS AN OLD
OLYMPIC CHAMPION,
SIR, I'LL BE GLAD
TO ACCEPT THE
POSITION!

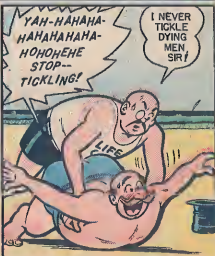
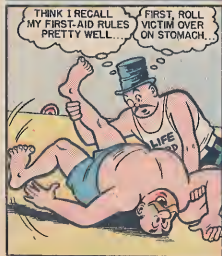
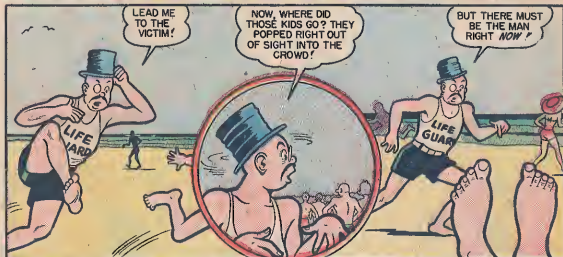
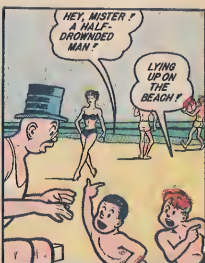
WELL, IF YOU'RE
AS GOOD A SWIMMER
AS YOU SAY
YOU ARE...

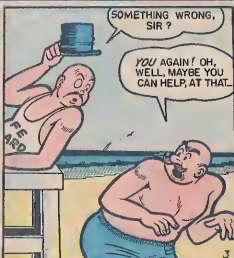
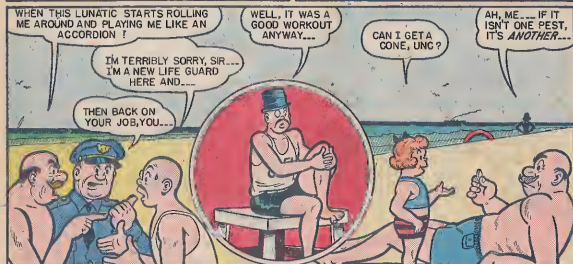
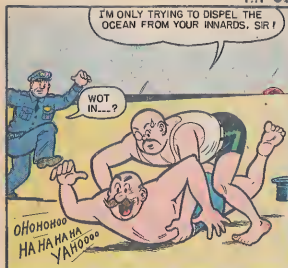
I USED TO SWIM THE
ENGLISH CHANNEL
BOTH WAYS FOR
WEEK-END WORKOUTS,
SIR, AND TAUGHT DIVING
TO BACKWRO SEALS IN
CIRCUSES FOR YEARS!

WELL,
SWIMMING
ISN'T
ALL TO
THIS JOB...

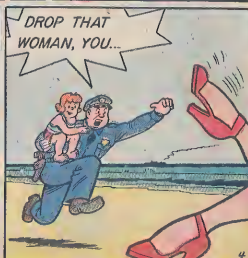
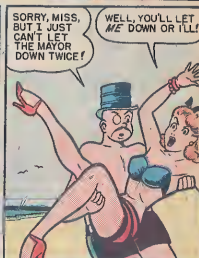
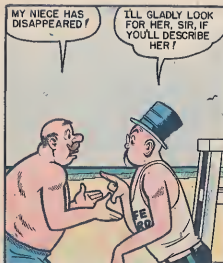


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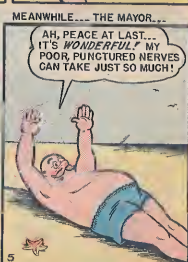
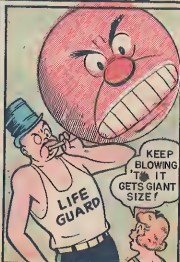
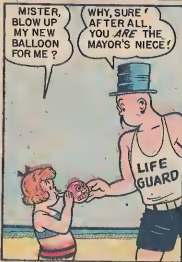




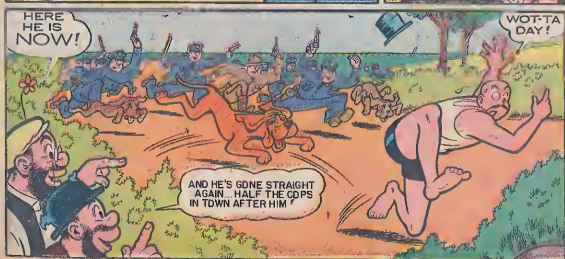
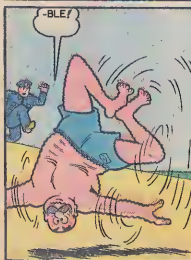
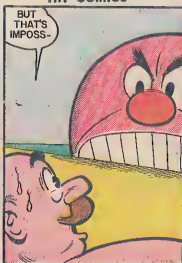
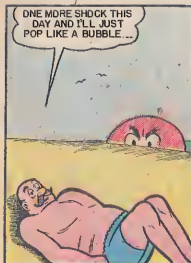
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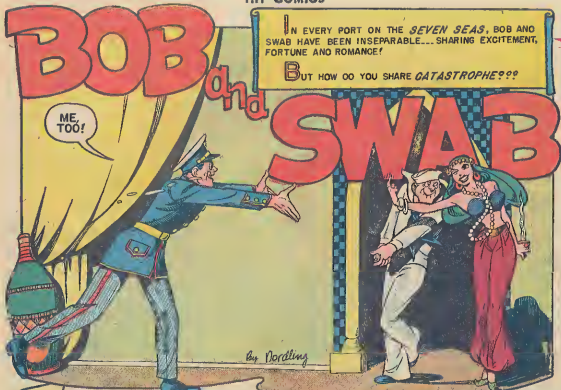


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SHORE
LEAVE
ON AN
EXOTIC
SHORE
NOBODY
WANTS
TO
LEAVE...

HEY, WHAT'S WITH
SWAB? I'M STILL
TRYING TO MAKE
A DATE, AND HE
LOOKS LIKE HE'S
ALREADY
ORGANIZED!

SHH, BOB, IT'S A GAG...
THE BOYS TOLD SWAB
THERE'S A DAZZLING
GAME, JUST DYING
TO MEET HIM!

THERE'S AN OLD DESERTED
HOUSE AT THE END OF THE
STREET... THEY PERSUADED
SWAB TO GO THERE AND
KNOCK AT THE DOOR...

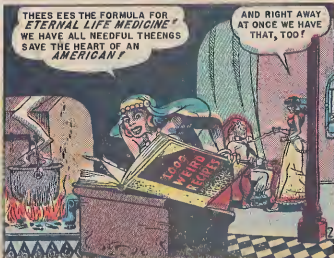
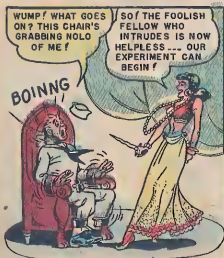
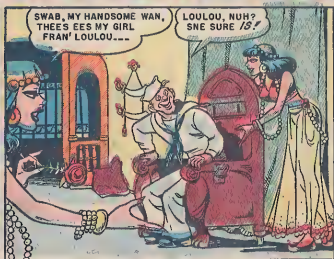
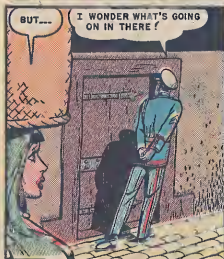
IF I KNOW
SWAB, HE'LL
KNOCK THERE
TILL SHORE
LEAVE'S OVER!
G'MON, SISTER,
LET'S GO
WATCH HIM!

BUT THAT
HOUSE, MY
FRIEND!
IT IS...

SHHH! DON'T GIVE THE
THING AWAY! LET HIM WAIT
AND WISH AND WONDER!



HIT COMICS



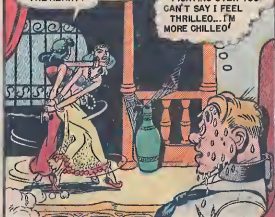
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STOP, LOULOU! DON'T TOUCH HEEM! ONE HEART MEANS ENOUGH MEDICINE TO GIVE ONLY *ONE* OF US THE LIFE ETERNAL! ANO EET WAS I, TEEKA, WHO FOUNO SWAB!



NO! BUT I FOUNO THE RECIPE BOOK... I. LOULOU, OESERVE THE HEART!

THIS MUST BE WHAT BOB MEANS BY WOMEN FIGHTING OVER YOU! CAN'T SAY I FEEL THRILLED... I'M MORE CHILLED!



THEN LET US WAIT UNTIL WE CAN GET ANOTHER AMERICAN'S HEART!

WELL THOUGHT, TEEKA... BUT WHERE?

AHOY IN THERE! ANYBOODY HOME?

AN AMERICAN VOICE! TEEKA, FORTUNE CONTINUES TO SMILE UPON US!



YOU SEEK YOUR FRANO SWAB? HE EES EENSIOE, WEETH TEEKA... JUST LET ME INSIOE WITH YOU ANO I'LL CALL IT ALL SQUARED AWAY!



AH! LOULOU, ANOTHER SO WELCOME AMERICAN STRANGER IN OUR HOSPITABLE HOME!

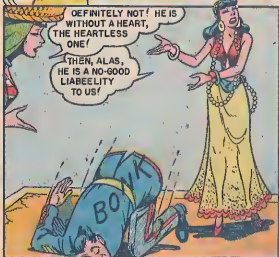
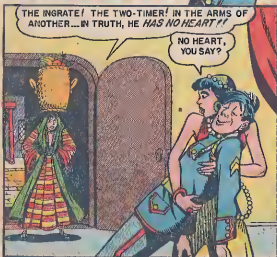
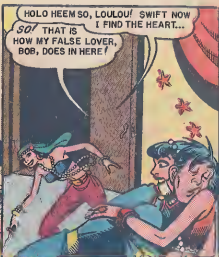
YER, THAT'S ME! WHAT'S WITH SWAB?



HERE I AM, BOB! LOOK OUT... THIS IS A NEST OF MURDERESSES! BE NOT SO AMAZED, HANDSOME ONE! THAT EES ONLY A TREEK OF TEEKA... SHE EES THE VENTRILOQUIST, YOU KNOW... OH, HA HA-HA!



HIT COMICS



HIT COMICS

AVAST! BELAY!
FAREWELL,
CRUEL WORLD...



THANK YOU! AND
NOW THAT I HOLD
THIS SHARP STEEL...

...I THINK I WILL DO A LITTLE
RESEARCH ON *YOU TWO HEART
STEALERS!*



BUT-BUT-
BUT...

BUT ME NO BUT-
BUTS, THE EITHER
OF YOU!

OUEEK, LOULOU,
THE CLOSET! WE
MUST HIDE!



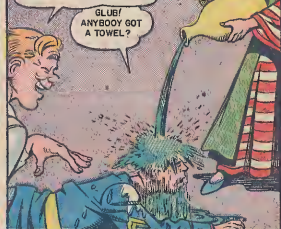
ALL IS WELL, SAILOR STRANGER! I
AM OF THE LOCAL POLICE UNDERCOVER!
LONG HAVE I SOUGHT THESE FOOLS
WHO THOUGHT THEY KNEW BLACK MAGIC!

NOW THAT YOU'VE
FOUND THEM, I
HOPE YOU
PERMANENTLY
LOSE THEM!



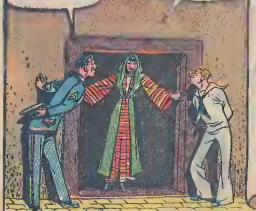
HAW! HAW! THE HEROIC MARINE
HAS LANDED...ON HIS HEAD!

GLUB!
ANYBOODY GOT
A TOWEL?



LADY, YOU SAVED OUR
LIVES! HOW ABOUT
SAVING SOME TIME
FOR ME...LATER?

ALAS, IT IS UNTHINKABLE!
I MUST BE BUSY COLLECTING
EVIDENCE HERE (FAREWELL!)



WE GOT PLENTY OF SHORE
LEAVE LEFT, BOB! HOW
ABOUT...

HOW ABOUT VISITING A NICE
QUIET ART GALLERY... WITH A
BODYGUARD?



THE HIGH SILK HAT

JEB RIVERS was at the wheel of the swift river packet, *Paragon*, and he gazed into the gloomy night with the eye of an expert. Like all crack pilots, he knew every inch of the old Mississippi. He could tell by a combination of full experience and accurate instinct just where to steer to keep to the channel and avoid the sand bars and snags. His skillful hands operated the wheels as if by inspiration. But plainly his attention was not undivided. Young Catfish watched his friend with mystified eyes.

Up the ladder from the *Texas*, hurried a lithe figure in jacket and pantaloons, but plainly not masculine. It was lovely Marnie, Captain Pelham's daughter.

"Jeb, I'm worried," she said. "Dad thinks he's going to expose a crooked riverboat gambler down there in the main saloon, but I'm afraid he'll lose everything at cards."

"Might the gambler be a burly man with sidewiskers?" asked Jeb. "Does he wear a long brown frock coat and a high silk hat?"

"That's right. Only the high silk hat's setting on a chair beside him, instead of on his head. How did you know?"

"I've seen him ashore," said Jeb, "and I know his method. Take the wheel, Marnie. I'll look into that game."

Jeb descended to the saloon, and at once spied a table with five or six card players. As he approached, one of the men rose with a rueful laugh. "Cleaned out," he said. "You're plumb lucky, Colonel Creel."

The frock-coated man addressed as Colonel Creel raked in the money. "Thank ye, gents," he said. "Too bad our party's short by one man."

"Let me take his place," offered Jeb, his hand on the back of the empty chair.

"Wait a moment, sir," Colonel Creel rose and faced him. "By your leave, sir." He patted Jeb's pockets with his hands. "I always make it a rule to ask my companions at cards to lay aside all weapons."

"I never carry gun or knife," replied Jeb. "Do you?"

"Search and see," said Colonel Creel. Jeb touched Creel's pockets. They held no weapons. "Now, sit down, sir. Your name?"

"Rivers." Jeb put money on the table. "Who deals?"

"I do," said Captain Pelham, shuffling the cards. "It's draw poker. Ante, gentlemen."

The hand was played, and Colonel Creel took another pot. The stack of money in front of him grew almost to a barricade. Captain Pelham glowered.

"I wonder if you aren't too lucky," he told Colonel Creel.

"Sir, do you suggest—" began the colonel.

"Come, gentlemen, no suspicions," said Jeb gently. "It's my deal, I think."

He dealt cards all around. Colonel Creel opened, and others bet. The table stakes grew; one or two players dropped out. Finally Captain Pelham laid down his cards with a sigh, for he had wagered heavily. "Too much for me," he confessed. "Colonel, it's between you and Jeb Rivers."

"I call," Colonel Creel began to gather in the money. "Four kings."

"Wait!" snapped Jeb. "I have four aces." He showed them.

Colonel Creel stared, and muttered profanely. "Impossible!" he spluttered.

"It seems so, doesn't it?" smiled Jeb. "Because you know the four aces are up your left sleeve—ready to be slipped in at the right time, the way you slipped those kings from your right sleeve. But I know these gambler-cheating tricks, though I don't use them except to punish cardsharps. I carry extra cards, too!"

Colonel Creel roared, and reached toward the high silk hat that had rested, upside down, on the chair beside him. It was gone.

"I tipped off Catfish to care for your hat," said Jeb, and Catfish came to Jeb's elbow, the hat in his hand. Reaching in, Jeb brought out an ugly looking double-barrelled pistol.

"You make your opponents lay aside their weapons, and pretend to do the same," Jeb accused Creel. "But you keep one in your hat, ready for trouble. Well, this is trouble, sir."

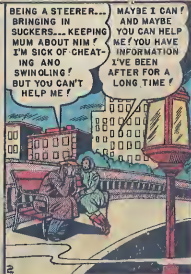
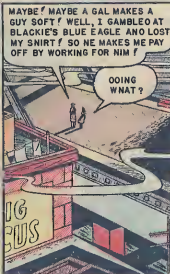
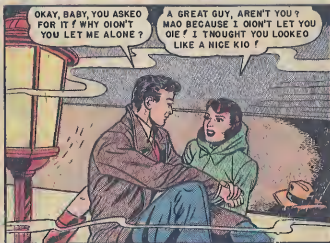
"Off my boat, you scoundrel," Captain Pelham ordered the cardsharp.

"At the very next landing," spluttered Creel.

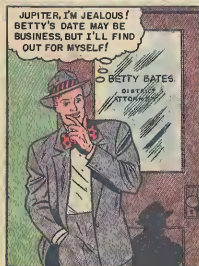
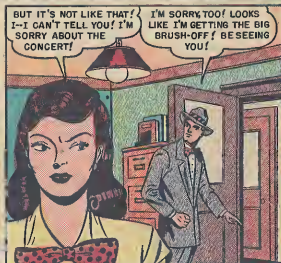
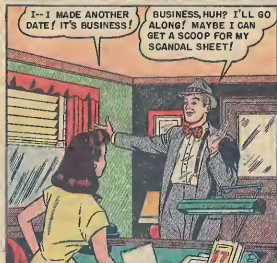
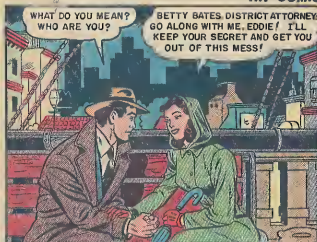
"No, right now!" said Jeb. He stepped toward Creel, who tried to grapple with him. There was a flurrying scuffle, the sound of a blow. Next instant Jeb had the gambler by the collar, rushed him out on deck. There was a loud splash, and Jeb came back, smiling.

"He can swim ashore, it's only a dozen strokes," announced Jeb. "Captain Pelham, help me return this money to the players Creel cheated. And, Catfish! Go out and throw Creel's high silk hat after him."

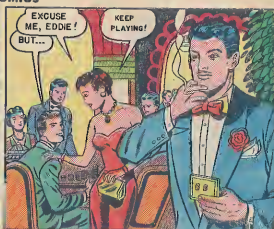
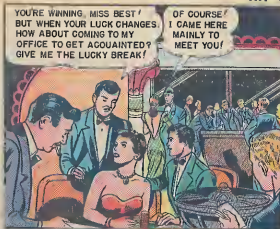
A man in a brown coat and hat is running through a city street, looking back over his shoulder. A woman in a green coat is running behind him. In the background, there is a building with a red roof and a chimney. The scene is set in a city with other buildings and a cloudy sky.

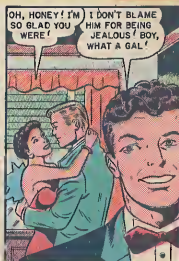
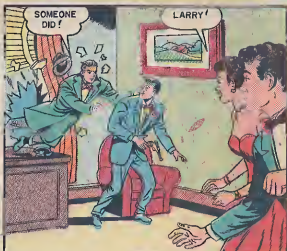
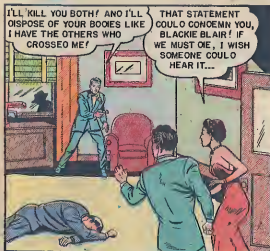
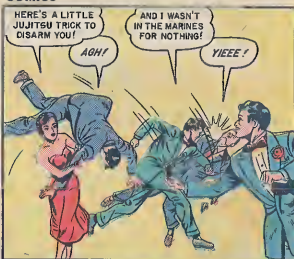
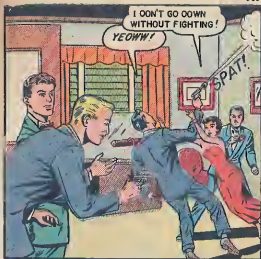


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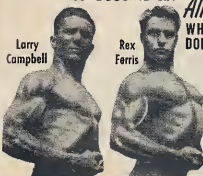
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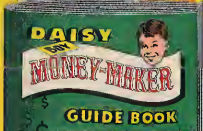
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